

Appln. No. 09/521,367  
Petition dated December 11, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of June 13, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 00146/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Hitoshi KARASAWA

Serial No. : 09/521,367

Filed : March 8, 2000

For : TROCAR SHEATH TUBE

Art Unit : 3731

Examiner : Paul A. Roberts

Confirm. No.: 9961

Customer No.: 01933

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Applicants hereby petition for a three (3) month extension of time for timely filing of the paper(s) filed concurrently herewith.

Extended time expires December 13, 2003.

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12-30-03  
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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
USSN 09/521,367  
GAU 3731

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Date of Deposit: December 11, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*Marilyn Stults*  
Marilyn Stults

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

12/16/2003 YPOLITE1 00000018 09521367

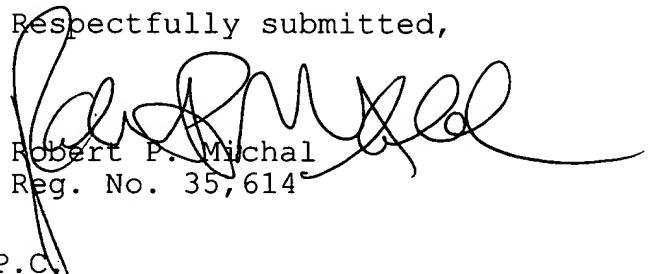
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950.00 OP

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A check for \$950.00 is attached to cover the Patent Office fee. If any further fees are required, authorization is given to charge same against Account No. 06-1378.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robert P. Michal  
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December 11, 2003

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